UNITE	D STATES OF AMERICA,	
	V .	16 Cr. 371 (RA
JOHN	GALANIS,	
	Defendant.	Sentencing
	x	
		New York, N.Y. March 8, 2019
		11:47 a.m.
Befor	e <b>:</b>	
	HON. RONNIE A	BRAMS,
		District Judge
	APPEARANCE	ES
	REY S. BERMAN United States Attorney for the	
	Southern District of New York NEGAR TEKEEI	
	BRENDAN F. QUIGLEY Assistant United States Attorne	eys
	O & TOUGER	
	Attorneys for Defendant DAVID TOUGER, ESQ.	
MORVILLO ABRAMOWITZ GRAND IASON & ANELLO PC		NELLO PC
	Attorneys for Defendant PAUL R. GRAND, ESQ.	

(Case called) 1 THE COURT: Good morning, everybody. 2 3 So I understand, just before your appearances, that 4 we're getting another set of headsets for Mr. Galanis. Can we 5 get started, do you think? 6 MR. TOUGER: Sure. 7 THE COURT: All right. So please state your appearances. Good morning. 8 9 MS. TEKEEI: Thank you, your Honor. Good morning. 10 Negar Tekeei and Brendan Quigley on behalf of the United 11 States, and joining us at counsel's table is Special Agent 12 Shannon Bieniek with the FBI. 13 THE COURT: All right. Good morning. 14 MR. TOUGER: Good morning, your Honor. David Touger, T-O-U-G-E-R, for Mr. Galanis, and it's my honor to have at the 15 table Mr. Grand, Paul Grand. 16 17 THE COURT: All right. Good morning to all of you. 18 Good morning, Mr. Galanis. 19 THE DEFENDANT: Good morning. 20 THE COURT: Mr. Galanis, if you're having trouble 21 hearing anything, just raise your hand, all right? 22 THE DEFENDANT: Thank you, your Honor. I will. 23 THE COURT: Okay. This matter is on for sentencing. 24 Mr. Galanis was found quilty in June of conspiracy to

commit securities fraud and securities fraud. I denied his

25

request for a new trial in a memorandum opinion and order dated November 15, 2018.

In connection with today's proceeding, I've reviewed the following submissions: The presentence investigation report revised as of October 1st of 2018; Mr. Galanis's sentencing memorandum dated January 3rd, with accompanying exhibits; and I also have his prior sentencing memorandum in the Gerova case as well; and the government's sentencing memorandum dated January 9th. Have the parties received each of these submissions? Am I missing anything?

MS. TEKEEI: We have, your Honor, and you're not missing anything as far as the government is aware.

THE COURT: Right. And today I see that you've also submitted a proposed order of restitution and preliminary order of forfeiture money judgment, correct?

MS. TEKEEI: Yes, your Honor, that's correct, and we provided copies to Mr. Touger as well.

THE COURT: Thank you.

Mr. Touger?

MR. TOUGER: You have everything that we have submitted, your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

So why don't we begin by discussing the presentence report, which, as you know, is prepared by the probation office.

1 Mr. Touger, have you reviewed the presentence report with your client? 2 3 MR. TOUGER: Yes, I have, your Honor. 4 THE COURT: Do you have any remaining objections? 5 know you made a number to the probation department directly and 6 some changes were made. Do you want to tell me if there are 7 any that remain from your perspective. MR. TOUGER: The only additional ones are the ones we 8 9 brought up in the sentencing memo that you have before you. 10 THE COURT: With respect to loss amount and number of 11 victims? 12 MR. TOUGER: Yes. 13 THE COURT: Okay. So let me ask --14 (Defendant conferring with his counsel) 15 MR. TOUGER: The only thing, your Honor, just to complete it, in the Prior Crimes section, there is a Canadian 16 17 case that they have left sort of open. 18 THE COURT: Right. 19 MR. TOUGER: That case has been dismissed, as has the 20 New York case that they left open. Both those cases have been 21 dismissed. I don't know why they left them open. I don't 22 think it matters much as far as calculations, but if they want it to be --23 24 Does the government contest that? THE COURT:

there any objection to noting that those cases were dismissed?

25

J381gals MS. TEKEEI: We have no objection to noting that 1 that's what counsel has conveyed to the Court. I don't have 2 3 information about the Canadian case, but as it doesn't affect 4 his criminal history category, we have no objection to noting 5 that for the record. THE COURT: Okay. So we'll note that. I mean, right 6 7 now, in the last sentence of paragraph 98, it reads -- oh, sorry. That was Connecticut. Hold on. 8 9 Yes, that still relates to the Canadian matter. 10 MR. TOUGER: Yes. 11 THE COURT: It says, "It is unclear whether the 12 defendant was ever extradited to Canada in connection with this 13 case or if the case was dismissed." Should we just revise that 14 line to read that Mr. Galanis was never extradited to Canada 15 and defense counsel has represented that the case was 16 dismissed?

MR. TOUGER: That's fine, your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. So that will be the last line of paragraph 98.

And is there another change you wanted to make with respect to the arrests for which there was no conviction?

MR. TOUGER: If you look at No. 101 --

THE COURT: Yes.

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. TOUGER: -- that's the New York case I was speaking of.

THE COURT: All right. So I'll add a line at the end 1 of 101 as well saying defense counsel has represented that this 2 3 case was dismissed. Is that right, Mr. Touger? Can you 4 represent that? 5 MR. TOUGER: It kind of says that in the report, 6 because if you read it, it says the case was superseded by 7 another indictment. So it was dismissed. THE COURT: Okay. So do you think we need to add 8 9 anything or do you think it's fine the way it is? 10 MR. TOUGER: I think we should, your Honor, just so 11 it's clear. 12 THE COURT: All right. So I'll add that line. 13 All right. I'll make those changes. 14 Mr. Galanis, have you had enough time and opportunity 15 to review the presentence report and discuss it with your 16 attorney? 17 THE DEFENDANT: I have, your Honor. 18 THE COURT: All right. Does the government have any 19 objections? And I'll of course get to the substantive 20 objections. 21 MR. TOUGER: Let me ask Mr. Galanis one more question. 22 THE COURT: Yes, sure. Go ahead. 23 (Mr. Touger conferring with the defendant) 24 MR. TOUGER: I quess we're going to try out the new

25

equipment.

THE COURT: Okay.

Does the government have any objections to the presentence report?

MS. TEKEEI: No, your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. All right. So first of all, I'll just note that I'm going to adopt the factual findings in the report. The presentence report will be made a part of the record in this matter and placed under seal. If an appeal is taken, counsel on appeal may have access to the sealed report without further application to the Court.

Now, Mr. Galanis, as you're well aware, the federal Sentencing Guidelines are a set of rules that are published by the United States Sentencing Commission, and they're designed to guide judges. Although at one time they were mandatory, they're no longer mandatory, but judges must nonetheless consider the guidelines, and so we have to ensure that we have the calculated them properly.

I understand that you have three objections to the guidelines calculation. One relates to loss amount, one relates to the number of victims, and one relates to criminal history. Is that correct?

MR. TOUGER: That's correct, your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. Do you want to be heard further on those?

MR. TOUGER: No, your Honor. I think the memo

outlines the argument.

THE COURT: Okay. So with regard to the amount of loss, it seems clear to me that the loss caused by Mr. Galanis's offense of conviction exceeded \$25 million and that a 22-level enhancement for loss amount in this case is entirely appropriate.

As I understand it, Mr. Galanis principally argues that he should not be held responsible for the loss amount suffered by the WLCC through its issuance of the bonds and the Hughes and Atlantic clients' subsequent investments in these instruments. This is because, according to Mr. Galanis, he did not knowingly engage in fraud in soliciting the WLCC bonds and he understood that the \$2.35 million that he received for the execution of this deal was a legitimate commission for his services.

I disagree. As an initial matter, these arguments were not only rejected by a jury but, as Mr. Galanis appears to acknowledge, were also rejected by this Court in its Rule 29 decision. As I made clear in that decision, the evidence presented at trial established that Mr. Galanis made material misrepresentations to members of the WLCC tribe to influence them to issue the bonds at the heart of this case. Among these misrepresentations were Mr. Galanis's statements to the WLCC representatives that: (1) Jason Galanis worked at Burnham, which in his sentencing memo Mr. Galanis concedes was

objectively untrue; and (2) that the proceeds of the bond offerings would be placed in an annuity on its behalf when in fact no such annuity even existed. Furthermore, Mr. Galanis does not dispute that the \$2.35 million payment was not provided for in the schedule setting forth the payments of expenses owed at closing, which would have been reported had his been a legitimate commission for the execution of the bond deal. In response, Mr. Galanis now contends, for the first time, that this supposed commission was not disclosed in the schedule because he believed that it was not being paid from the bond proceeds but by the company Wealth-Assurance because that is who he was helping. But Mr. Galanis does not point to any evidence for this novel assertion, which, as the government points out, directly contradicts Mr. Galanis's own claim at trial that he was working for Burnham Securities.

But perhaps even more probative of Mr. Galanis's fraudulent intent was the way in which this commission was received by him. As explained in the Court's Rule 29 opinion, these proceeds were not directly wired to the defendant but instead sent to a front company called Sovereign Nations. In turn, Mr. Galanis then directed distributions of the \$2.35 million to both himself and family members through a fake email account. For these reasons, and those more fully explained in the Court's Rule 29 decision, the Court therefore agrees with the government that Mr. Galanis was well aware that

the bond's proceeds were misappropriated. It also follows that Mr. Galanis was aware that the bond's investors would lose whatever money they sank into this investment.

Because there's no dispute that this total investment loss is between 25 million and 65 million, the Court will apply the 22 levels to Mr. Galanis's sentence.

I also find that the two-level enhancement for ten or more victims is appropriate in this case. In his sentencing memorandum, Mr. Galanis contends that he should not be held responsible for the Hughes and Atlantic clients' investments in the WLCC bonds, as he had no direct relationship with these investors. But again, I disagree. As I just explained, Mr. Galanis was aware that the bonds were misappropriated and that their subsequent investors would therefore lose whatever they put into these investments. Nor does Mr. Galanis contest that the subsequent investment victims numbered over ten people. As a result, the Court will apply this two-level enhancement to Mr. Galanis's sentence.

Finally, Mr. Galanis argues that he should be placed in criminal history category II, not III, because he received three points for his federal conviction in 1987 and three points for his conviction in New York County for grand larceny in 1988, which violates double jeopardy and due process because these crimes should not have been prosecuted separately.

As the government correctly points out, however,

Mr. Galanis has not received criminal history points for the 1987 federal conviction; rather, the three points he received from the 1988 grand larceny conviction, combined with the three points he received from the 2015 Gerova conviction, is what yields a criminal history category of III.

All right. So those are my rulings with respect to the guidelines calculation. As a result, I find that Mr. Galanis's offense level is 31, his criminal history category is III, and his recommended guidelines sentence is 135 to 168 months in prison.

Now as I said a moment ago, that range is only advisory. Courts may impose a sentence outside of that range based on one of two legal concepts — a departure or a variance. A departure allows for a sentence outside of the advisory range based on some provision of the guidelines themselves. As I understand it, you're moving for an actual departure based on health conditions, is that correct?

MR. TOUGER: That is correct, your Honor.

THE COURT: And do you want to be heard further on that?

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{MR}}.$  TOUGER: I thought we did deal with that in the sentencing memorandum.

THE COURT: Okay. All right. I also just will note that of course I also have the ability to impose a nonguidelines sentence based on what we call variance, pursuant

to the factors set forth in 18 United States Code Section 3553(a).

And now why don't I hear from the parties.

Would the government like to be heard.

MS. TEKEEI: Only very briefly, as your Honor sat through a lengthy trial in this case and is very familiar with the facts.

We just would like to note -- and again, the Court is aware of this, but -- capping a lifetime of criminal conduct,

John Galanis played what can only be described as a critical role in this scheme. He victimized one of the poorest Native American tribes in the country by causing them to issue bonds; he promised them money for needed tribal development projects and guaranteed them the ability to repay investors in those bonds through a secure annuity. And then he defrauded the investors, the pension fund investors in those bonds -- pension funds that were held for the benefit of thousands of hard-working people, by allowing their money to be invested in bonds he knew were ultimately worthless.

For his conduct in this case, and in light of his extensive criminal history, and the 3553(a) factors that we've discussed in our submission, we seek a guidelines range sentence in this case.

THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

Would any victims like to be heard today, Ms. Tekeei?

Would any victims like to be heard today? 1 2 MS. TEKEEI: Your Honor, victims have already 3 submitted letters. There are none here today that I'm aware 4 of. 5 THE COURT: Thank you. 6 Would you like to be heard now, Mr. Touger? 7 MR. TOUGER: Yes, your Honor. Actually, if it would be okay with the Court, could 8 9 Mr. Galanis speak first and I'll speak after? 10 THE COURT: Sure. 11 Yes, Mr. Galanis. You are free to say what you'd like 12 to say today. 13 THE DEFENDANT: Thank you, your Honor. And good 14 afternoon. 15 THE COURT: Good afternoon. 16 THE DEFENDANT: Give me one moment, your Honor. 17 sorry. I need to --18 Hopefully this plea is not too late to have you consider what I say. Your decision under Rule 29 was clear on 19 20 what you thought happened. Your findings meant you did not 21 accept Jason's letter saying he did not tell me of his plan to 22 divert the bond proceeds and the other misinformation that he 23 That leaves me pleading for leniency and hoping to 24 show you why my failures as a father resulted in this case.

At trial, to preserve the 404(b) ruling, I made a

25

decision not to put on an affirmative defense, which would have helped show why I was fooled. However, my being fooled does not mean I do not acknowledge or accept your conscientious objection jury charge, which pointed out that my blissful ignorance is not a defense. I fully realize that through my actions over 50 years ago, I lost receiving the benefit of the doubt that you rightfully afforded to Mr. Archer. Your doubts will not evaporate with my explanations today, but I hope you hear them in mitigation of my actions. However, if you would consider leniency, because I want to show you the emotional aspects of my family's actions in this matter.

Often my history creates a negative judgment, but I ask you to look at it differently, maybe as Judge Brieant saw me and ruled that I deluded myself into believing that my acts were legal in the complex case he decided that were before him. I testified to over a week at that trial, and a jury was out for over nine days. My conscious avoidance of Jason's actions is not unlike Judge Brieant's description of my deluding myself. I grant my guilt is a distinction without a difference, but I want you and my family to know that I am foolish, not larcenous.

I make these statements not only for you today but also for my wife of 50 years, so she knows I did not lead our son astray. As Tolstoy wrote, all happy families are happy in the same way, and all unhappy families are unhappy in a

different way. My sentencing submission focused on why my child became unhappy with me, which caused unhappiness in my family. His warranted lack of trust and confidence in me resulted in this case. Even though I did not know his plan for the bond proceeds, I must and do take responsibility for his actions. Ultimately it was my fault he did not trust me. I did not fault him -- I do not fault him for his rebuke of me. However, he is right but for the wrong reason. The reason should have been by not rejecting -- that he should have been angry at me for not rejecting his Gerova plan. I was not the father that had advised him for years on how to avoid problems. I failed him. Despite my loving him, I let him hurt himself and others.

There may be many reasons unknown to me why he changed our relationship after 2011, but one thing remains undeniably clear at this point. He stopped introducing me to his friends and business associates, and there was never any further family events at which I was invited. Jason — goes to Jason's lack of trust. Jason had a very logical reason for not confiding in me about his business plans. And his attorneys had maintained that his actions in Gerova were part of an immunity agreement with the Central District of California. That immunity agreement was contingent on truthful disclosure. Jason never disclosed me or my role in Gerova. I told Jason if there was an incident — I'm sorry — if there was an indictment, I would

seek to exonerate his brother Jared. As biblical Jacob created envy amongst Joseph's brothers by giving him a multicolored coat, I showed Jason that he could not trust me to protect him over his — over his brother. His lawyers knew of my position and were constantly worried, because when I proffered Jared's innocence, I might also discuss his then-current activities. I limited my proffer to exonerating Jared, but this was after all the bond activity had occurred, so Jason never knew that I couldn't — could not have talked about him.

Mr. McMillan's testimony verified in 2011 the change in Jason's and my relationship. I asked Mr. McMillan not to allow Jason in that year to control any accounts he ran for me. On the stand, if you remember, he was willing to go further in describing the issues but was stopped over concern of violating the 404(b) ruling.

Brings up: Why did I trust Jason? As to his plan on Gerova, I accepted his explanation that his illegal acts were desperate, were to save a cash-rich -- pardon me -- a cash-poor but asset-rich company. He admitted desperation could make him commit illegal acts, but there was no hint of desperation in his discussions about Wealth-Assurance. When I looked at Wealth-Assurance, it was a very different company than Gerova. It had a solid balance sheet, great auditors, and excellent partners who listened to him. No doubt, Jason was a primary architect of the Burnham roller plan, which everyone agrees on

as thoroughly legal. I thought he had finally made his fortune. And there was no temptation for him to do anything illegal. Wealth-Assurance was not a cash-starved company, and it had a fast-growing business.

An important factor for my going to Jason was he was the only source in the securities industry I knew, after all my time in prison. My relationship with Haynes and Shannon was just starting. Ultimately my finances are probably what caused me not to question his explanations after I learned who the buyers for the second bond offering were, and that WAAG was not going to be the issuer of the annuity. Also, I admit, I loved and admired my son and wanted to believe that he had redeemed himself. However, after the bond interest payment was late, I knew there was something very wrong, with his actions and ultimately mine.

Evidence which the government presented to determine my guilt I believe deserves an entirely different conclusion. The government's presentation is — can be analogized to Lewis Carroll's Alice in Wonderland, where statements where Humpty Dumpty, in quotes, says, "A word is what I choose it to mean, not what you think it to mean." The government's use of evidence followed that same logic. Paraphrasing Mr. Carroll, the government would have you believe evidence means what they choose it to mean, not what it meant.

Please consider these arguments and my submissions on

the evidence.

There is one overall question which casts a cloud of doubt over the government's contentions. If I was Jason's confidant and so close to him I knew the conspiracy from inception, why did I know nothing about his illegal takeover of Hughes and Atlantic? Is it logical? If I'm deeply embedded in all aspects of the conspiracy, why not that one? That's the most critical part of his plan. Hirst knew, Morton knew, Dunkerley knew, Martin knew, but I didn't know, or certainly the government would have named me in those charges.

Jason did not tell me of his plan to divert the money or that there was not going to be a legal immunity because his lawyers had convinced him I was betraying him with my inevitable discussions about his breach of the immunity agreement.

Giving a Humpty Dumpty-type claim, the government maintains encryption was used on all emails until — was used in all emails, yet no encryption was used until after the Gerova indictment on emails. Not shown were hundreds of emails between Jason and I, Shannon and I, Haynes and I, all painting a different picture. An example is Shannon's email which shows I was not sent to Las Vegas by Jason targeting Raines; I was sent by Shannon and Haynes to meet with their partner Ricen and Stephen Haynes, and others at that meeting.

I ask you to put my submission statements and

financial claims to the test. Call Shannon, Haynes, and Jason to the sentencing hearing. Please do not leave me in the position again which Judge Brieant had to write in his sentencing results on me: "An injustice without a remedy."

I am sure you realize that any additional time I receive today will result in being the equivalent of a life sentence. I ask you not to consider — I ask you to consider all those extra years I spent in prison beyond what Judge Brieant considered appropriate as a reason for a downward departure in my sentence today. I ask you not to leave me in the same position as when Judge Brieant's sentencing intention was thwarted by nonjudicial factors, which greatly increased my prison time. For example, even though I was a clear candidate for the residential drug program, the BOP has rejected my application.

I did not plan crimes. The work I was doing for the Indians was exciting, fulfilling, and rewarding. My financial background could have — could have been put to good use with Mr. Haynes and the Native Americans. Finally, despite my background, I found a group that needed and wanted my help. Most importantly, it was a group who would work with me, not Jason. Yes, the first transaction was with him, but many others were planned without him. Why else would Ricen never have met Jason and Stephen Haynes had only had one short lunch?

I did not intentionally intend to defraud the WLCC.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

If I thought I was involved in an illegal scheme, does it make sense I would have spent the majority of the commission on professional fees for future projects with Haynes and the WLCC? Those projects Jason was not involved in. I should have paid — yes, I should have paid more attention to the bond transaction's due diligence, especially knowing that Jason had taken shortcuts in Gerova.

I take exception to the view that -- the government's view of me as a career criminal. My many references to Judge Brieant's findings is because of his involvement in all my criminal cases. Having sentenced me in both my federal cases and clearly stating the related state case should not have been prosecuted separately, his later decision certainly made clear he did not think of me as a career criminal. Yes, I've made mistakes and take responsibility. I've also worked hard at legal businesses with successes. My error is not to have heeded the higher command of being a responsible parent, properly instructing my children. I loved being a father, and I hoped to be a parent who was respected and giving comfort and protecting his children. I am heartbroken I failed my two older sons. I did not stop Jason from committing a foolish act, and he despised me for that lack of character. Why does he hate me remains a mystery. He seems to have wanted me to have gone into the illegal drug business. He wanted me to act like a Mafia don. As I told him, that was a fool's role.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

What gives me solace is how tightly Chandra, my wife, Jared and Jesse, my other sons, have stayed by me.

Now I must speak of the most humbling and painful part of my request. Given my age, medical issues, my current sentence reduces the likelihood I'll ever enjoy any of the years with my wonderful granddaughter Olivia. There is a sadness that at her same age, I had to have prison visits from her father Jesse till he was 18. My wife now lives with family to take care of Olivia while Jesse and his wife work. Chandra is a survivor of two onsets of breast cancer. The most recent one resulted in a double mastectomy. I hope to be able to be home to help her with Olivia. Before I came east for the trial, last spring, Olivia came to visit me on a special children's visiting day, which allowed us to play games, draw, and walk around, unlike normal prison visits. We laughed as she rode on my walker. Through the prison visiting windows, we marveled the size of the container ships that were in Los Angeles Harbor. We made up a story that the containers were where Santa's helpers made presents. As the pelicans flew over the ship, she asked why they flew in a straight line, not like other birds. I will miss that wonderful part of raising a child of where the questions are an endless joy. Yes, we had a magical time, but the departure was heartbreaking. She lined up to leave with my son and his beautiful wife, but ran back to me, tugging at my arm, stamping her foot, demanding I come home

now, Pappous. "Pappous" is grandfather for -- in Greek. Whether I will meet this request depends on how you see my culpability, consideration for my age, medical condition, and many years spent in prison.

My medical issues are not idle speculation. My father died at 69 of a heart condition brought on by diabetes and high blood pressure. Both my grandfathers died of prostate cancer. As my medical records show, I have all three of these conditions. The possibility I could overcome these issues in prison was unlikely if I did not prepare myself from my prior experience. I believed if I undertook a healthy living program, eating correctly, exercising daily, with medical help, I expected I would be able to live out my sentence.

Graciously, Judge Castel allowed me time before surrendering to have two major surgeries to restore my maximal ability to implement my healthy living program. Unfortunately, much about prison medical department and food services has changed. The situation about my orthopedic shoes mentioned in the submission proves the old adage: For want of a horseshoe nail, the kingdom was lost. In my case, it was for want of --my mobility was lost, for want of shoes. Confined now to a wheelchair, the exercise that was part of my program to moderating diabetes and blood pressure is gone. Exacerbating the problem, the prison food has gone from balanced meals with fresh vegetables to meals high in glycemic index carbohydrates.

Please understand, this is not from deliberate indifference of the prison. It's reality of the aging prison population, putting a budgetary strain on the BOP's resources. I hope you can see from my respectful dealing with the van accident, I do not cast blame on others for my difficulties. I accept that life is not free from the unavoidable, and I try not to be judgmental.

Because all of those factors I have described, please consider, is my role knowingly, or, as I maintain, unwittingly assisting Jason worthy of a life sentence? Whatever your decision, I wish to thank the Court for its gracious accommodation made because of my handicap before and during trial. If today's sentence could, as President Lincoln advocated, bear the richer fruit of mercy rather than strict justice, it would allow me to return to my wife, help heal my family, and entertain Olivia.

Thank you, your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you.

Mr. Touger?

MR. TOUGER: Thank you, your Honor.

Your Honor, this case teaches me a lesson that I've learned many times in my career, that there are always two sides to a coin, and depending on what side you're on, that's how you're going to read the evidence in this case.

But I attached to my sentencing submission an email

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

from Mr. Pete Shannon. This was written long before the trial. No way anybody could argue that it was made up to combat evidence at the trial or anything else. That memo, that email puts, in my mind, a hole in the government's case that they cannot fill. That email says quite specifically that he wants John Galanis to go meet up with Mr. Haynes and Mr. Raines. This is not, your Honor, Jason Galanis sending him to Las This is not anything to do with Jason Galanis. Mr. Galanis met Mr. Shannon by his friend Mike Murphy, they spoke, they came up with an idea, and they tried to implement There is no credible argument that can be raised against that email. Mr. Shannon takes so much credit for the idea that at the end of that email, you'll notice he wants -- he finds out that they made money and he wants a commission because it was his idea. So that puts the first hesitancy to adopt the government's idea that Mr. Galanis was working with Jason from the very beginning in this case in targeting the Wakpamni.

It leads us next to the meeting itself, and the statements that were just mentioned that John Galanis misinformed the WLCC representatives to get them to go along with the bond idea by saying that Jason Galanis worked at Burnham. As we've always said, objectively, that is a lie. Subjectively, it means it's a lie with no difference. There is no argument that is raised by the government, the Court, or anybody else that Jason Galanis controlled how Burnham would

invest their money. So if you're not familiar with -- if you're looking from the outside and you're not familiar exactly with how everything is working out, and Jason calls up his father and says, yeah, I can get this done, it's not unreasonable for John Galanis to tell them, he's working at Burnham. Whether he was working at Burnham or not, he controlled Burnham. That statement was not false in what it was being made to do. The idea was, he was telling WLCC, if we go ahead with this idea, I have somebody who can push it through, the bond thing through. That is not a lie. That was a true fact. That was proved out by the evidence itself.

The next argument is that somehow that if John were sent there by Jason, that after the meeting is over, John never talks to the representatives for six weeks. Now you might not know John Galanis as well as I do, but I think you can rest assured from the emails you saw during the trial, John Galanis would never let anybody go six weeks without hearing from him if he wanted him to do something. That's an impossibility for John Galanis. I've represented John Galanis for years now. I hear from him every day. If he wants something, he makes it perfectly clear how he wants to get it done and keeps coming forward, listening to your ideas, coming back with other ideas. That's John Galanis. John Galanis is sent to that meeting by Jason Galanis to convince them to do something, does not go six weeks without talking to those people after the meeting.

THE COURT: Are you asking me to reconsider my decision on your motions?

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. TOUGER: No, your Honor. What I'm trying to outline to you is, you have a very difficult job here, to come up with a just sentence, and the just sentence has to be based on what somebody did to make them quilty of this crime. If you really believe that John Galanis was working with Jason from the very beginning and this whole thing was laid out by the two of them to sell the bonds from the Wakpamni and pocket the money, then you should give John Galanis one sentence. However, if you believe that in the beginning of this matter that John Galanis was not working with Jason, that John Galanis sought out Jason for the very purpose of -- he was the only one he knew who could possibly sell these bonds, and didn't know that these bonds were a falsity and a fake, and that Jason was just going to steal the money, if he doesn't know that from the beginning, he should get a different sentence. And that's why I'm outlining --

THE COURT: If I thought someone was innocent of crimes, we wouldn't be at sentencing.

MR. TOUGER: I'm not even saying he's innocent of a crime, your Honor. It's when his guilt came into effect. We have never argued -- we understand that after, when we figured -- I shouldn't say "we" -- when Mr. Galanis figured out that something was wrong here and improper, that we didn't come

forward and say stop, we didn't divorce ourselves from the proceedings, we kept going. We acknowledged our criminal conduct at that point. But that point happened after the first tranche of bonds was done. It doesn't mean he's not criminally responsible. Conscious avoidance, as I wrote in my sentencing submission, makes him criminally responsible. That is a federal charge of law, that is federal law, and that makes him responsible. But there is a sentence on somebody who is consciously avoiding figuring out a crime or somebody who actively began, maintained, and completed a crime; it's a completely different animal. And that's why I'm putting this to the Court.

What's also interesting, your Honor, is that as Tim Anderson testified, it was his idea, and only his idea, to send out the whole Wakpamni bond deals. He did that two weeks after the meeting in Las Vegas. And what's also important for this Court to remember is that Mr. Anderson testified that once the bond idea was accepted by all parties, Mr. Galanis basically dropped out of the picture and Jason Galanis took control. So that's another aspect that just flies in the face of what John Galanis is as a person. If John Galanis was part of this and this was his plan, he would not have dropped out of any picture.

Which leads us to the commission, and there are two things that everybody and the government hammered on in their

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

summations, and it's hammered on in their submissions, which is: (1) the meeting, the false statements in Las Vegas; and (2) the commission. At the trial -- and the Court in its Rule 29 motion also. There is no doubt his commission is higher than That's a fact. We can't argue with that. anybody else's. That's a fact. There's also no doubt, as stated by the government's witnesses at trial, that was a perfectly legitimate commission based on the amount of money that was involved here. The government's argument, as you stated previously, that this had to be -- if it was legitimate, it would have been put in the bond papers. That money was not coming out of the bond payments. There is no reason to put it in the bond payments. That money was coming from the organization that was getting the bond money. That's who owed the commission, and nobody else. They weren't making the Wakpamni pay for it. They weren't making the investors in the bond pay for it. They had to pay for it and therefore they didn't have to reveal it to anybody. And that's how the business works. This is not individual to this case. That's the normal operating procedure of this business. If vou're being paid by the person who's making the money and it's not coming out of the bond proceeds, you don't need to tell anybody else that you're paying it, because nobody else is paying it. What's also interesting is that the Court has

that it was Sovereign Nations, it wasn't John Galanis. Why would John Galanis take the \$2.3 million into his personal bank account if he knew that that money was not all going to him? Most of that money, well over half of that money, went back to try to start the other Wakpamni investments, such as the fire, the fire, the water, and all these other programs that they were trying to do, and the athletic organization.

And then, the most important part of the Sovereign Nations testimony is the testimony of Mr. McMillan, who testified that there was a break in the relationship of Jason and John Galanis in 2011. And that in and of itself shows that there was no reason for Jason to trust John Galanis anymore, and I won't go into any more depth than that because that's covered completely in my submission.

What's interesting is the testimony of Mr. Dunkerley during the trial that Jason only gave everybody the knowledge they deserved or needed to have, and that he didn't know everything that was going on. But he knew all about the purchase of Ms. Morton's company. He knew it was happening. John Galanis didn't know; we know that. Mr. Hirst knew; we know that. Ms. Morton knew, obviously, but John Galanis didn't know. So if he was, again, this mastermind of this conspiracy from the very beginning, why wouldn't he know anything about this most important part? Because this is where they were getting the buyers of the bonds. It just doesn't make sense.

But this is all dealt with in great detail in my submission, so I just wanted to emphasize those points.

I'd like to now turn to Mr. Galanis's health. Whether the Court wants to deal with it as a departure or just as reasons why, as a variance, the Court can choose that way, but I just hope that the Court deals with this issue.

The average life span of an American male right now is 79 years old. Mr. Galanis has passed that age. He's not an average American male. He has high blood pressure, he has plaque build-up, he has prostate issues, he has diabetes, he has renal disease --

THE COURT: He's 75 now, correct?

MR. TOUGER: Excuse me. I meant we're past that on the original sentence. I'm sorry. He will pass 79 based on the sentence he has in Gerova. I'm sorry.

He has joint deterioration, he has hearing issues, and a myriad of other problems. And he's not outside in the American public with doctors dealing with that issue. It is unbelievable to me that the Bureau of Prisons couldn't even get him a pair of shoes. He has now been in custody for over a year, and he still doesn't have a pair of shoes. A simple pair of orthopedic shoes. A pair of orthopedic shoes, you must understand, that he came into the jail system wearing and they refused to allow him to take in, saying, oh, don't worry, we'll get you those shoes. A pair of shoes, I might add, that he's

offered to pay for and they say, no, we'll get you those shoes. The lack of those shoes has proved one thing and has done another. The lack of those shoes has put Mr. Galanis in the wheelchair. That's the effect of it. And what it proves, your Honor, is they will not take care of any of these other issues that have been caused either by that lack of shoes or been exacerbated by that lack of shoes. So there is no doubt that Mr. Galanis's life span expectancy is going to be less than the average American male.

THE COURT: Even if I'm sympathetic to the health concerns, how should I factor in the fact that he committed this crime in his 70s, committed the Gerova crime in his late 60s, when he already had some of these health conditions?

MR. TOUGER: The way you can factor that in, your Honor, is that as far as the Gerova crime, you have our sentencing memorandum in that, so I'm not going to go into a long explanation of why that occurred. So the Court has proven many things to this lawyer. One thing this Court has proven to this lawyer is that you read everything you've gotten and you understand it, so I'm not going to go into that theory. The Gerova case is totally separate and distinct from this case, as far as why they occurred.

Mr. Galanis did not come into this case committing a crime, and I guess that's where we have a distinction, your Honor, is, Mr. Galanis went into this case as a way, in

essence, really, to top off a career that began before he committed criminal conduct and go back and help out the Native American tribes. There is no doubt in my mind that Mr. Galanis did not go into this to rip off the Native American tribe in Wakpamni. There is no doubt in my mind. I have talked to those people, and there is no doubt in my mind. So he did not commit a crime in his 70s. He committed conscious avoidance and he committed -- later, when it became known to him, he didn't get Jason to stop this, but there was no going, in my mid 70s, I need to commit a crime. That did not occur.

I'm not going to sit here and argue -- or stand here and argue to you that you should not give him any time for this case.

While I feel any time you give him just magnifies and increases his chances of dying in jail, I understand that this Court has to give him some time. The Court has given Mr. Hirst -- or Dr. Hirst, I should say -- three years, consecutive.

THE COURT: Three years consecutive.

MR. TOUGER: Consecutive. In my mind, Mr. Galanis's conduct is less than Dr. Hirst's conduct in this case, and that's what I'm using sort of as my bar to be set. Because Dr. Hirst also had the Gerova conviction, also is a man of age --

THE COURT: He doesn't have as many prior convictions.

MR. TOUGER: He doesn't have the record. I was just

going to say that.

THE COURT: He hasn't been committing crimes since the '70s, when Richard Nixon was president.

MR. TOUGER: Well, that's a statement that is true factually, but he spent 17 of those years in jail. He wasn't committing crimes for the last 40 years, your Honor. He committed a crime that led to multiple prosecutions that even a judge of this court said were all related in and of itself. He spent 17 years in jail for those crimes. And the only two crimes he's committed since then, your Honor, are the Gerova crime, which we've explained, and this crime. So this is not a man -- I know that the government wants to paint this man as a man who, all he's done his entire life is commit crime. That's not true. Yes, he has convictions from the 1970s and 1980s that were basically one criminal conduct that he got 17 years for, and then there's two other crimes, the Gerova and this.

In this case, Dr. Hirst knew exactly what he was doing. There is no way anybody could argue otherwise. He was an employee of Ms. Morton's company when they bought it. He convinced employees of that company that this was the right thing to do to buy these bonds. He signed the bond purchase. There is no way he can argue — and I don't believe he has argued, as he pled guilty before trial — that he did not commit those acts knowingly. His signature is on the purchase of the bonds. Mr. Galanis was not involved in that at all. I

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

think that is admitted by everybody. Mr. Galanis's main role here, even if you give him a role, was to bring the Wakpamni to the table with Jason. Even if you want to say that that was his role and that's what he was sent out to do, that's all he did. He did not force the Wakpamni to do anything, he did not take any money from the Wakpamni, and the Wakpamni, as we have shown, has not lost a penny from this. They have gained a building, they have gained the money they got, and nobody has come to them asking them for the \$65 million. And nobody ever will. So I believe Mr. Hirst's -- Dr. Hirst's conduct was beyond that of John Galanis, and therefore, his sentence in this case, especially with the health issues he has, and the fact that we already know, from BOP already rejecting him from the drug program, that he's going to do the time the Court sentences him to -- he's not getting a year off. Even with the new legislation that has just been implemented -- I just went to a CLE on that -- he's not going to get the benefit of any of those programs. He's not safety valve eligible. None of those programs -- especially now that he's not getting the drug program -- will help him. Every day that you sentence him to, he's going to do 85 percent of that time. So every day that this Court gives him, he's doing.

And therefore, your Honor, I would ask that you give him a sentence less than Dr. Hirst, as far as consecutive to the sentence --

THE COURT: I'll just note for the record, Gary Hirst got a sentence of 96 months in prison, with 36 months to run consecutive to the sentence on Gerova.

MR. TOUGER: Yes. And my only request, your Honor, is, based on everything you know and the sentencing submissions you have, that John Galanis deserves a sentence less than Dr. Hirst.

THE COURT: Thank you.

Is there any reason why sentence cannot be imposed at this time?

MS. TEKEEI: No, your Honor.

MR. TOUGER: No, your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. So I'm required to consider the advisory guidelines range of 135 to 168 months, as well as various other factors that are outlined in a provision of the law, 18 United States Code Section 3553(a), and I have done so. Those factors include, but are not limited to, the nature and circumstances of the offense and the personal history and characteristics of the defendant, because every defendant must be considered individually as a person.

Judges are also required to consider the need for the sentence imposed to reflect the seriousness of the offense, to promote respect for the law, provide just punishment for the offense, afford adequate deterrence to criminal conduct, protect the public from future crimes of the defendant, and

avoid unwarranted sentencing disparities, among other things.

Mr. Galanis, you have been defrauding people and entities for well over 40 years. That is nothing short of extraordinary. Many of the crimes that resulted in conviction were in this very court, either in Manhattan or in White Plains. Your first conviction, as I noted a moment ago, was in this court back in 1973, for mail fraud and conspiracy to make false statements to the SEC. You were convicted in this court again in 1987 for a conspiracy to defraud the IRS. Tax fraud, RICO, securities fraud, bank fraud, and bribery. And after receiving a very lengthy sentence in another conviction in state court, you were again convicted in this court at the age of 72 before Judge Castel for a securities fraud in the Gerova case we've spoken a lot about.

And then there's the conduct in this case, which
Mr. Galanis continues to challenge but which I have no doubt
was proven beyond a reasonable doubt at a very lengthy trial by
the government.

There's no real dispute, in my view, about the seriousness of the crime and the harm caused to one of the poorest Native American tribes in the country, as well as the clients of Hughes and Atlantic, pension funds held for the benefit of transit workers, longshoremen, housing authority workers, and city employees, among others. Over the course of two years, Mr. Galanis helped steal more than \$40 million from

numerous pension fund clients and left the Wakpamni Lake

Community Corporation without money for economic development

and owing more than \$60 million on the outstanding bonds.

2.35 million of the bond proceeds were sent to an entity

controlled by Mr. Galanis, who then used that money for, among

other things, jewelry, cars, hotels, and disbursements to

family members.

As I noted in my ruling on his application to apply the minor role reduction, his involvement in this conspiracy in my view was far from minor. So I've considered his role, I've considered the number of victims impacted, and how they were impacted.

As I noted, Mr. Galanis, now 75, has five prior convictions, with criminal histories dating back to the 1970s, mostly for fraud-related offenses.

You know, Mr. Galanis, I recall your son Jason. I know you've had a complicated relationship, but I recall him at sentencing describing what it was like growing up with a father notorious for crimes. That's not the legacy most people seek.

A substantial sentence thus must be imposed to reflect the seriousness of the offense, promote respect for the law, provide just punishment for the offense, and afford adequate deterrence, both to you, Mr. Galanis, and to others who may seek to engage in similar conduct. Perhaps more than anything, however, I need to protect the public from future crimes that

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

you may commit. While most people are less likely to recidivate as they get older, as I noted earlier, you committed your last two crimes in your late 60s and your 70s, so that assumption appears not to apply to you.

I have considered and am genuinely sympathetic to, and I think you know tried to be throughout the trial and before, Mr. Galanis's health problems, including his degenerative disc disease, joint issues, spinal issues, prostate issues, high blood pressure, hypertension, diabetes, among other ailments, and I do take those medical conditions seriously, and if there are any recommendations you want me to make on the judgment that may assist in getting him the treatment he needs, I'm happy to do that. But as the government points out, Mr. Galanis committed this fraud at a time when many of these conditions were already manifest and so he was fully aware of the potential consequences on his health if he was punished for his wrongdoing. I also believe that the BOP will be able to handle Mr. Galanis's health issues, as they do with other inmates who have conditions that he identifies. So I don't think a departure is warranted for that reason. considered it in the 3553(a) balancing, and as I said, I'm happy to make any recommendation that may assist him going forward.

Finally, I've considered all of the other arguments
Mr. Galanis has made, including the need to avoid unwarranted

sentencing disparities.

I've read all of the letters submitted from his wife and children.

And I am ready to impose sentence.

So Mr. Galanis, can you rise? If you can't, if it's uncomfortable, you don't need to.

THE DEFENDANT: It would be a problem, your Honor.

THE COURT: In any event, if it's difficult for him, there's no need to do that.

It is the judgment of this Court that you be committed to the custody of the Bureau of Prisons for a term of 60 months on Count One and 120 months on Count Two, to run concurrently to one another. 48 of those months is to be served consecutively to the sentence imposed by Judge Castel, and the remainder of the sentence is to run concurrently to the sentence imposed by Judge Castel.

That term of imprisonment shall be followed by a term of supervised release of three years on each count, to run concurrently.

I believe that this sentence is sufficient but not greater than necessary to comply with the purposes of sentencing set forth in the law.

So why don't we discuss the conditions of your supervised release. The standard conditions of supervised release shall apply. I'm not going to read them out loud.

They're on page 47 to 48 of the presentence report. Unless you 1 2 want me to. 3 The mandatory conditions shall apply: 4 You must not commit another federal, state, or local 5 crime; 6 You must not unlawfully possess a controlled 7 substance; You must refrain from any unlawful use of a controlled 8 9 substance; 10 You must submit to one drug test within 15 days of 11 release from imprisonment and at least two periodic drug tests 12 thereafter, as determined by the Court; 13 You must cooperate in the collection of DNA as 14 directed by the probation office; and 15 You must make restitution in accordance with the law. 16 And those provisions of the law are set forth on page 47. 17 In addition, in light of the nature of the crimes, I'm 18 going to impose the special conditions recommended by the probation office: 19 20 You must provide the probation officer with access to any requested financial information. 21 22 You must not incur new credit card charges or open 23 lines of credit without the approval of the probation officer

unless you're in compliance with the installment payment

24

25

schedule.

1 And you'll be supervised in your district of 2 residence. 3 I decline to impose a fine in light of the forfeiture 4 and restitution that will be imposed. 5 I'm imposing the mandatory special assessment of \$200, which shall be paid immediately. 6 7 So let's talk about restitution and forfeiture. you have an objection, Mr. Touger, to the preliminary order of 8 9 forfeiture money judgment? 10 MR. TOUGER: Forfeiture? No. 11 THE COURT: So I'm ordering forfeiture in the amount 12 of -- the government's seeking the \$2,585,000, is that correct? 13 MS. TEKEEI: Yes, your Honor. 14 THE COURT: Yes. So I'm going to order forfeiture in 15 that amount, and I'm going to sign this order of forfeiture money judgment, which will become part of the judgment in this 16 17 matter. Now with respect to restitution, you have an objection 18 to the proposed restitution order, is that right, Mr. Touger? 19 20 MR. TOUGER: Yes, your Honor, based on the arguments 21 we've already put forth to the Court. 22 THE COURT: All right. Would the government like to 23 be heard.

MS. TEKEEI: Your Honor, as is clear in our submission

and as the Court has already held with respect to the loss

24

25

amount, the full amount of the victims' losses can be directly attributed to and foreseeable to Mr. John Galanis, and that is why the restitution order covers the full amount of the victims' losses, which is more than \$43 million.

THE COURT: I agree for the reasons that I've already stated, so restitution shall be ordered in the amount of \$43,785,176, as indicated in this order of restitution, which I will sign and will also be made part of the judgment in this matter.

Does either counsel know of any legal reason, other than the ones that you've stated and I've rejected, why this sentence cannot be imposed as stated?

MS. TEKEEI: No, your Honor.

MR. TOUGER: No, your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. That's the sentence of this Court.

Mr. Galanis, you have a right to appeal your conviction and sentence. If you do choose to appeal, the notice of appeal must be filed within 14 days of the judgment of conviction. If you're not able to pay the cost of an appeal, you may apply for leave to appeal in forma pauperis, which simply means that court costs, such as filing fees, will be waived. If you request, the clerk of court will prepare a notice of appeal and file it on your behalf.

Are there any open counts or underlying indictments?

MS. TEKEEI: There are underlying indictments, your Honor, and we move to dismiss them at this time.

THE COURT: They shall be dismissed.

Is there any recommendation you want me to make with respect to housing or medical condition?

MR. TOUGER: Two things, your Honor.

One, I would ask -- I'm presuming that I will be doing the appeal, and so if you could have BOP keep him at the MDC for the next two months just so I can lay the preliminary groundwork for the appeal with him before he goes, and then, because that relates to my second request, is that he go back to Terminal Island from whence he came and that you also order --

THE COURT: How far away is that?

MR. TOUGER: It's in Los Angeles. That's where his family is, and that's where he was, at the medical -- it's the medical facility for the West Coast.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. TOUGER: And also, your Honor, if you remember, you had put an order that he be flown from LA to here for the trial because of his medical conditions. We'd ask that you put that same order in, that he be flown back to Los Angeles and not go on the bus trips across the country.

THE COURT: Yes. Is there an order you need to submit to me to that effect?

```
MR. GRAND: I will submit it.
1
 2
               THE COURT: Please submit that.
 3
               I will make the other two recommendations in the
      judgment.
 4
5
               MR. TOUGER: Thank you, your Honor.
6
               THE COURT: Are there any other applications at this
 7
      time?
8
               MS. TEKEEI: Not from the government, your Honor.
9
               MR. TOUGER: No, your Honor.
10
               THE COURT:
                           Thank you. We're adjourned.
11
               MS. TEKEEI: Thank you, your Honor.
12
               MR. TOUGER: Thank you.
13
                                     000
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
```